

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

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DATE DISTR. 28 Oct. 1949

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
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1. About 50 aircraft were usually parked at the factory field bordering on the aircraft plant. The aircraft were being painted.
2. Characteristics of the observed aircraft type: Single-seat fighter, noticeably large radial engine with three-bladed propeller, low-wing monoplane, elliptical wings, single rudder assembly, cockpit starting at middle of wing chord, landing gear retractable to the rear, retractable tail wheel.
3. Type: La-5 (see para 2)
4. Production: "According to Soviet statements, 14 to 16 planes per day.

Comment :

a. Numerous PW reports have been received concerning the SARATOV Aircraft Plant No 292. However, these reports are contradictory with regard to the descriptions given of the observed fighter type. Most of the observations were made in 1947 and up to early 1948. Fifty percent of the interrogated PWs stated that the fighters built in this plant were equipped with in-line engine (12 cylinders arranged in V form); others stated that it featured a radial engine similar to the FW-190. There is no agreement as to whether the craft was fitted with a three-bladed or two-bladed propeller.

b. A new fighter type, allegedly, went into production late in 1947. From the reported observation of both radial and in-line engines in SARATOV it is inferred that two different fighter types or series of one type were in production in 1947, the most probable model being the Yak-11 with Ashh-21 radial engine.

c. This assumption is supported by a Soviet document secured

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in STRAUSBERG, a packing slip for minor aircraft accessories shipped by Department No 53 of Plant No 292 of the Ministry of the Aircraft Industry. Among other items, this slip lists a blind flying curtain and two covers for propeller wings as items shipped. These items would indicate a two-place fighter trainer with two-bladed propeller, i.e., a Yak-11 model with Asch-21 engine.

d. Whether, after the discontinuation of the production of a Yak series, a model similar to the aircraft described in the report, presumably an La-9 or La-11, went into production, requires clarification by information of a more recent date.

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